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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,061	10/24/2003	Idan Avraham	MSFT-2818/305956.01	3378
41505 7590 01/26/2007 WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP (MICROSOFT CORPORATION) CIRA CENTRE, 12TH FLOOR 2929 ARCH STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104-2891			EXAMINER GYORFI, THOMAS A	
			ART UNIT 2135	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS			01/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/693,061

Applicant(s)

AVRAHAM ET AL.

Examiner

Tom Gyorfi

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/1/04 and 11/4/05.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-45 are pending examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 11/4/05 and 10/1/04 are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statements are being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. Claim 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 22 recites the limitation "said graphical user interface element" in lines 1-2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. There is no recitation of a graphical user interface element in the parent claim 15 prior to the use of the term "said". Examiner respectfully suggests that the amending the claim so as to make it dependent from claim 21 would overcome the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-5, 12-19, 22, 26-32, and 39-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boebert (U.S. Patent 5,822,435).

Regarding claims 1, 15, and 29:

Boebert discloses a method, computer-readable medium, and trusted user interface engine comprising: accepting user input from a trusted user input device (col. 5, lines 44-51); determining whether said secured execution environment is in a standard input mode (col. 5, lines 15-30); and if said secured execution environment is in a standard input mode, transferring at least a portion of said user input to said second execution environment (col. 6, lines 40-60).

Regarding claims 2 and 16:

Boebert further discloses decrypting said user input (col. 4, lines 25-30).

Regarding claims 3, 17, and 30:

Boebert further discloses if said secured execution environment is in a nexus input mode, determining a specific process running in said secured execution

environment to which said user input is directed (col. 7, lines 13-27); and directing said user input to said specific process (Ibid).

Regarding claims 4, 18, and 31:

Boebert further discloses determining whether said user input comprises a user NIM indication that said secured execution environment should be in a nexus input mode (col. 6, lines 1-10); and if said user input comprises said user NIM indication and said secured execution environment is not in said nexus input mode, switching said secured execution environment to said nexus input mode (col. 5, lines 27-32).

Regarding claims 5, 19, and 32:

Boebert further discloses where said NIM indication comprises a combination of keystrokes on a keyboard (col. 6, lines 1-5).

Regarding claims 6, 20, and 33:

Boebert further discloses where said NIM indication comprises a programmatic activation of a process running in said secured execution environment (e.g. the electronic mail function initiating the trusted mode, col. 7, lines 50-60).

Regarding claims 7, 21, and 34:

Boebert further discloses selecting a graphical user interface element corresponding to said process (col. 6, lines 50-60).

Regarding claims 8, 22, and 35:

Boebert further discloses wherein said graphical user interface element is a shadow graphical user interface element displayed using a second process, where said process is running on said second execution environment, and where said shadow graphical user interface element corresponds to a secured graphical user interface element displayed by said first process (Ibid; col. 5, lines 33-43; col. 8, lines 45-50).

Regarding claims 12, 26, and 39:

Boebert further discloses where if said secured execution environment is in a standard input mode, and a second portion of said user input corresponds to changes to a graphical user interface element displayed by a process running on said secured execution environment, said changes to said graphical user interface element are performed within said secured execution environment (X-Windows, col. 6, lines 50-60; see also col. 7, lines 30-39).

Regarding claims 13, 27, and 40:

Boebert further discloses where said changes to a graphical user interface element displayed by a process running on said execution environment comprise the movement of a mouse cursor over a graphical user interface element displayed by a process running on said secured execution environment (inherent to X-Windows, see col. 6, lines 50-60).

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Regarding claims 42 and 44:

Boebert discloses a method and computer readable medium comprising: maintaining a current state for said secured execution environment selected from among a group of possible states comprising: a standard input mode and a nexus input mode state (elements 37 and 38 of Figures 3 and 4; col. 5, lines 20-30); and directing flow of user input according to said current state (col. 5, lines 15-50).

Regarding claims 43 and 45:

Boebert further discloses limiting a transfer of said user input to said second execution environment when said current state is said nexus input mode state (col. 5, lines 44-51).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 9-11, 23-25, and 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boebert.

Regarding claims 9, 23, and 36:

Although Boebert discloses determining if the user input indicates switching from the standard user input mode to the nexus [trusted] input mode (see the rationale of rejection for claims 4, 18, and 31 above), Boebert does not explicitly disclose the reverse process. It would have been immediately obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to switch from nexus to standard input modes via any of the same mechanism(s) provided for the switch from standard to nexus modes. One would do so because failure to provide a means to terminate the trusted input mode would allow subsequent users of the computer system to masquerade as the original authenticated user, thereby defeating the security of the disclosed system (see also col. 2, lines 55-65).

Regarding claims 10, 24, and 37:

Boebert further suggests where said user SIM indication comprises a combination of keystrokes on a keyboard (col. 6, lines 1-5).

Regarding claims 11, 25, and 38:

Boebert further suggests where said user SIM indication comprises an action which results in a display with no graphical user interface element which corresponds to a process running on said secured execution environment (VT100s being known in the art as having no graphical user interface, col. 6, lines 50-55).

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9. Claims 14, 28, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boebert as applied to claims 1, 15, and 29 above, and further in view of Hwang (U.S. Patent 6,121,962).

Regarding claims 14, 28, and 41:

Boebert does not explicitly disclose switching said execution environment to a nexus input mode if a power management change is detected. However, Hwang discloses this limitation (col. 3, lines 25-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to switch into a secure input mode when a power management change, such as powering up from a suspended state, is made. The motivation for doing so would be to protect confidential data against unauthorized users (Hwang, col. 3, lines 10; see also Boebert, col. 3, lines 10-15).

Conclusion

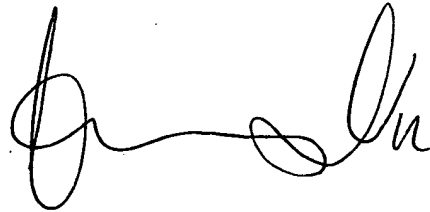
10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tom Gyorfi whose telephone number is (571) 272-3849. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TAG
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A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

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